



MONTANA **FWP**

## **Parks Capital Program**

The following is the funding detail and a description of each capital project line-item:

### **Parks Major Maintenance – numerous projects statewide - \$2,500,000**

Funding Sources:

Bed Tax	\$1,100,000
Motorboat Fuel Tax	\$1,050,000
Parks Earned Revenue	\$350,000

This line-item project will involve many individual projects statewide throughout the parks system. Typical projects include: hazard tree removal, reroofing, picnic table replacements, signage replacements, asphalt maintenance, and similar projects. An initial list of over 65 projects has been identified for implementation. Additional projects will be added throughout the course of the biennium as additional needs develop.

### **Yellow Bay SP – site upgrades - \$1,200,000**

Funding Source:

General License Account	\$1,200,000
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Yellow Bay SP is located on the east shore of Flathead Lake and provides important public access. Of the five existing state parks around the perimeter of the lake, it is the only one to have not received a significant site upgrade over the past two decades. The proposed project will involve a reconfiguration of the entrance off Highway 83, the upgrade of interior roads/parking areas, and address the limited camping opportunities that exist at the site.

### **Lewis & Clark Caverns SP – septic system upgrade - \$600,000**

Funding Source:

Bed Tax	\$300,000
Parks Earned Revenue	\$300,000

This project involves the replacement of the failing wastewater treatment system which serves the comfort station/RV dump station at the campground. The nearly 50-year old system is at the end of its' useful life and has begun to fail. This is an approx. \$1 million project which was initiated with exiting funding from a previous biennium. The \$600,000 line-item included in the capital budget for the recent Legislative Session is to complete the construction phase of the project. Please note that the current wastewater treatment system project has been designed, sized, and located such that it will support a future project to replace the existing comfort station at the site.

**Smith River SP – Eden site improvement - \$600,000**

Funding Source:

Smith River Corridor Enhancement Account \$600,000

In mid-2021 an effort will be initiated to update the current plan that has been in-place since 2009. An amendment made to HB 5 has provided funding for the implementation of a waste management system and Eden Bridge site improvements to occur in the future.

**Parks Diversified Lodging – several parks statewide - \$500,000**

Funding Source:

General License Account \$500,000

This project will involve installing alternative visitor camping opportunities in several water-based parks statewide. Preliminary investigations have occurred internally, and the consensus is that pre-manufactured cabin-type and tent platform structures will be the optimal choice given weather conditions, maintenance needs, ease of cleaning, and overall staffing requirements. The initial project anticipated is two cabins or platform tents at the following state park sites: Finley Point, Placid Lake, Big Arm, Tongue River Reservoir, and Headwaters State Parks. Besides the purchase and placement of the structures, additional work anticipated will likely include: gravel parking areas, site grading/rehab, and possibly latrines, depending on the individual locations.

**Parks Interpretive and Exhibit Upgrades – statewide - \$500,000**

Funding Source:

Parks Earned Revenue \$500,000

This project will provide funds to upgrade and rehabilitate interpretive exhibits, displays, signage, and similar features statewide. Possible areas of work include: First Peoples Buffalo Jump, Pictograph Cave, Council Grove, Madison Buffalo Jump, and Chief Plenty Coups State Parks. A refined project list will be developed.

**Fort Owen SP – park improvements; parking site/interpretation - \$390,000**

Funding Source:

Private Funds \$390,000

This project will allow the expenditure of private funds secured via a grant for several work items at Fort Owen State Park. Work includes: the construction of a parking area, fencing, interpretive upgrades, historic preservation, and associated consulting/design costs.

**Milltown SP Safety Improvements – access upgrades - \$250,000**

Funding Source:

Private Funds	\$125,000
Parks Earned Revenue	\$125,000

This project is associated with the private donation of approximately 30 acres of land contiguous to the Milltown State Park site in early 2020. The focus of the project is to secure public access into the site under the railway bridge and through the railroad right-of-way. Work will include the construction of fall-protection structure and fencing through the railroad property. Funding for this project includes private as well as state funding.

**Smith River SP – site enhancements; recreation improvements - \$200,000**

Funding Source:

Smith CEA	\$200,000
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With the planning effort to occur this biennium for the update the 2009 plan, this project was advanced. Possible projects may include: parking upgrades at Camp Baker (put-in), improvements at the boat camps on the river, hazard tree removal, signage replacements, and work at Eden Bridge (take-out).

**Flathead Lake Islands – three islands; site infrastructure upgrades - \$200,000**

Funding Source:

General License Account	\$200,000
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There are three FWP-owned islands in Flathead Lake (Cedar, Bird, and O’Neil Islands). Following an update to the existing island management plan, this project will provide funding for appropriate improvements to address the increasing public use the islands are receiving. Improvements will likely include: addressing the camping that is occurring, latrines, fire rings, signage, and related site infrastructure improvements.

**Flathead Lake Recreation Access/Somers Site – initial development) - \$100,0000**

Funding Sources:

General License Account	\$100,000
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This project involves the initial development efforts to open the site. Anticipated work includes parking areas, latrine placement, and possibly fencing, trails, and related visitor service improvements.